

# The relationship between humans and nature

In a recent report, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) called on humans to make peace with nature over the coming decades to **address the climate, biodiversity and pollution emergencies**.

The transformation of nature puts **human well-being at risk**

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (1979-2020)

The economy has grown almost fivefold and trade tenfold.

The human population has doubled to 7.8 billion.

However, 1.3 billion people are poor and 700 million go hungry.

## ELIMINATION OF WASTE

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) have doubled.

Chemical production, waste and pollution have increased.

## USE OF SPACE AND RESOURCES

Resource use has tripled.

Humans have an impact on 3/4 of the Earth's land surface not covered by ice and on 2/3 of the oceans.

The Earth's capacity to...

Sustain life

Provide resources

Absorb waste

**HAS BEEN REDUCED AND OVERWHELMED**

Transforming humanity's relationship with nature is the key to a sustainable future

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (from 2020)

Sustainable economic and financial systems.

Healthy and nutritious food, clean water and energy.

Healthy living and well-being for all in safe cities and settlements.

## ELIMINATION OF WASTE

Zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2050.

Management of chemicals, waste and pollution.

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Source: *Making Peace with Nature*, PNUMA.